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KINDERGARTEN TEACHER FROM SOUTH DUNDAS TO RECEIVE FIRE SAFETY AWARD

(TORONTO) June 9, 2015 – Jennifer Wagensveld, a junior and senior Kindergarten teacher at Morrisburg Public School in South Dundas will receive a Fire Safety Award from the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council at a ceremony on June 16, 2015 in Toronto. The annual Fire Safety Awards recognize outstanding contributions to fire protection and prevention in Ontario.

Wagensveld recognizes the importance of teaching fire safety messages to young children and doing it in a variety of ways to stimulate their different learning styles. As part of developing creative and fun lesson plans, she facilitated 'Firefighters are Friends' which allowed a fire prevention officer, public educator and firefighters to visit the classroom, so the children could interact and be more comfortable with them.

Last year, Wagensveld submitted a video to the South Dundas Fire & Emergency Services' Fire Prevention Week Facebook contest (www.facebook.com/SouthDundasFireEmergencyServices). The video showed Wagensveld's class singing and dancing a fire safety song with actions Wagensveld had taught and practiced with her class.

Wagensveld created an exploratory play area in her classroom, complete with fire trucks, dress up gear and equipment. In addition to this, she created Sparky themed crafts with age appropriate fire safety messages that the students took home. This exploration allowed students to ask questions and fire safety messages to be taught in a fun and interactive way.

"As a result of Jennifer's efforts, students have acquired essential fire safety information and are familiar with members of the fire service," said Ted Wieclawek, Chair, Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council. "Now many other teachers have taken a greater interest in providing fire safety education in their classes."

The Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council gratefully acknowledges the support of its sponsors in this event: Union Gas Limited, ULC Standards and Underwriters Laboratories of Canada Inc., Insurance Bureau of Canada, Technical Standards & Safety Authority, CSA Group, Kidde Canada Inc., Electrical Safety Authority, The Home Depot, Roxul Inc., and Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.

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